

## STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

House Committee on Government Accountability and Information Technology

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact**FISCAL:** May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued**Action:** Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference**Vote:** 5 - 0 - 0**Yeas:** Beyer, Edwards C., Girod, Thatcher, Riley**Nays:** 0**Exc.:** 0**Prepared By:** Patrick Brennan, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 4/24

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Requires state agencies to report to the director of the Department of Administrative Services when a full-time equivalent position is vacant for a six-month period. Directs that the position is to be eliminated if the director determines that there is not sufficient reason for retaining the position. Stipulates that agency budgets will be adjusted accordingly for any such positions eliminated.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Reasons that positions go unfilled for extended periods
- Agency budgeting process
- Recruitment problems for some agency positions
- Current practice by Department of Administrative Services regarding vacant positions
- Discretionary authority provided to Director of Department of Administrative Services
- State Printing Office

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** ORS 291.000 defines “state agency” as every state officer, board, commission, department, institution, branch or agency of state government (except the Legislative Assembly, courts, Public Defense Services Commission, and Secretary of State and State Treasurer) whose costs are paid wholly or in part from state funds.

House Bill 2834 requires state agencies to report to the Director of the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) if any budgeted full time equivalent position remains vacant for a six-month period. If the agency wishes to retain the position, it must provide the DAS Director with specific reasons to justify doing so. Should the agency not seek to retain the position, or the DAS Director determine that the reasons given for doing so are insufficient, the position is to remain unfilled until it can be eliminated and the agency’s budget adjusted accordingly.

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*This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.*